

REPUBLICAN SUCCESSES ON VALUES ISSUES

In the 107th Congress

Preserving Traditional Values

Pledge of Allegiance: Reaffirmed the reference to “One Nation Under God” in the pledge of allegiance and our National Motto “One Nation Under God.” (S. 2690, passed Senate, 6/27/02, passed House 10/8/02)

School Prayer: Prohibited federal funding for schools that unlawfully restrict constitutionally protected student prayer. (H.R. 1, signed into law 1/8/02)

Clergy Housing: Blocked a repeal of the clergy housing allowance exemption, which allows clergy to live in church housing tax-free. (H.R. 4156, signed into law 5/20/02)

Marriage: Provided \$100 million for state grants to promote healthy marriages. (Welfare Reform Bill, passed House 5/16/02)

Abstinence: Protected abstinence-until-marriage as the expected standard of behavior for young people, and increased funding for abstinence-only education by \$32 million for a total of \$142 million for FY2002. (Welfare Reform Bill, passed House 5/16/02; FY2002 LHHS Approps bill, signed into law 1/10/02)

Character Education: Doubled funding for character education to \$50 million. (H.R. 1, signed into law 1/8/02)

Internet Gambling: Banned Internet gambling sites from using credit cards and wire transfers to fund gambling transactions. (H.R. 556, passed House 10/1/02)

Parental Rights: Required schools to notify parents of all student surveys, tests and medical exams at the beginning of the school year so that parents can opt their children out of these surveys, if they so choose. (H.R. 1, signed into law 1/8/02)

Promoting Human Dignity

Partial-Birth Abortion: Banned partial birth abortion. (H.R. 4965, passed House 7/24/02)

Human Cloning: Banned all human cloning. (H.R. 2505, passed House 7/31/01)

Conscience Protection: Clarified that a health care entity (such as a hospital) should not be forced to perform abortions against its will. (H.R. 4691, passed House 9/25/02)

Born-Alive Infants: Gave legal protection to all children who are born-alive. (H.R. 2175, signed into law 8/5/02).

Parental Rights: Made it a felony to transport a minor across state lines to circumvent parental notification or parental consent abortion laws. (H.R. 476, passed House 4/17/02)

Unborn Victims of Violence: Required those who commit crimes against pregnant women be prosecuted for harm done to the woman and to her unborn child. (H.R. 503, passed House 4/26/01)

Abortions in Government Hospitals: Defeated a provision to allow abortions in U.S. military hospitals overseas. (Amendment to DoD Authorization bill, failed in the House 5/10/02)

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Cutting Taxes for America's Families

Adoption: Increased the adoption tax credit to \$10,000 for all adoptions. Made the adoption tax credit permanent. (H.R. 1836, signed into law 6/7/01; H.R. 4800, passed House 6/4/02)

Marriage Tax Penalty: Doubled the standard deduction for married couples filing jointly. Accelerated marriage tax penalty relief (to begin in 2003 instead of 2005). Made the marriage tax penalty repeal permanent. (H.R. 4626, passed House 5/21/02; H.R. 586, passed House 4/18/02)

Education: Expanded Education Savings Accounts so parents can save up to \$2,000 annually for their children's K-12 education in tax-free savings accounts. (H.R. 1836, signed into law 6/7/01)

Child Tax Credit: Doubled the child tax credit to \$1,000 over the next four years. (H.R. 1836, signed into law 6/7/01)

Protecting Our Children

Child Pornography: Strengthened prosecution of child pornographers. (H.R. 4623, passed House 6/25/02)

Internet Filters: Required Internet filtration software to be installed in public schools. (H.R. 1, signed into law 1/8/02)

Missing Children: Developed a national network to track missing children and prevent child abductions. (H.R. 5422, passed House 10/8/02)

Child Predators: Expanded law enforcement tools (including wiretapping) to crack down on child predators. (H.R. 1877, passed the House 5/21/02)

Child Predators: Increased the authority of federal judges to require that convicted child predators who are released from prison remain under court-ordered supervision. (H.R. 4679, passed the House 6/25/02)

Home Schooling: Exempted home school students from all federal testing and education requirements. (H.R. 1, signed into law 1/8/02)

Boy Scouts: Denied federal funds to any public school that discriminates against or denies equal access to the Boy Scouts of America. (H.R. 1, signed into law 1/8/02)

Child Sex Trafficking: Levied stiffer sanctions against those who are involved in child sex trafficking. (H.R. 4477, passed the House 6/26/02)

"Kid-Friendly" Internet: Passed legislation to create a "kid-friendly" place on the web by implementing a new U.S. domain name called "dot.kids.us" with content appropriate for children under 12. (H.R. 3833, passed House 5/21/02)

Home Schooling: Protected the privacy rights of homeschoolers by ensuring that their personal information is not disseminated. (H.R. 5331, passed House 10/7/02)